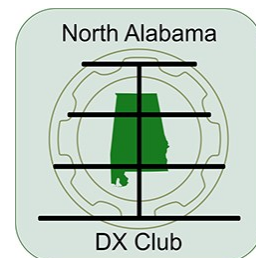


The LongPath

June 2026 — Volume 50 Issue 6

A North Alabama DX Club Publication



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AC4G

N4BCD

N4NM

NG3K

W1WSF

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From the President

by Bruce Smith, AC4G

Dayton Hamvention

The 2026 Dayton Hamvention was a standout event and a rewarding experience for attendees throughout the venue. From the flea market and vendor exhibits to the forums and evening banquets, the energy across the weekend reflected the strength and enthusiasm of the amateur radio community. Reports indicate a record attendance of 37,924, further reinforcing Dayton's reputation as the world's largest hamfest and amateur radio gathering. Special recognition is due to the more than 600 volunteers whose efforts helped the event run smoothly despite heavy traffic and long entry lines on Friday and Saturday. Their work, along with the broad participation of exhibitors, presenters, and attendees, contributed to a memorable and well-organized event. One of the highlights for me was meeting operators I had heard in pileups, including members of several DXpedition teams. For anyone who has never attended Dayton, it is well worth experiencing at least once.

Summer Band Conditions

As we move into the "doldrums of summer," the amateur HF bands are entering some of their more challenging seasonal conditions, though worthwhile DX opportunities remain. Morning

openings to Japan on 30 through 80 meters continue to provide enjoyable operating when conditions cooperate, and the Sporadic-E season should become active soon. While there had been hope for 6-meter F-layer propagation, current solar flux levels may be too low to support it. With Cycle 25 now moving into its declining phase, operators are encouraged to watch for openings on 10 and 12 meters while those bands remain productive. In the coming years, they may grow much quieter, as they typically do near the low point of the solar cycle.

Banquet Update

Planning for the NADXC banquet at the hamfest is well underway, and preparations continue to move forward steadily. During Dayton, I had the opportunity to speak with ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, as well as other ARRL staff members. At this time, it appears that Mr. Roderick and ARRL CEO Dave Minster, NA2AA, will attend the banquet, along with additional staff. We will provide tickets for the two ARRL VIP guests, while other staff members will purchase their own. I also had the pleasure of speaking with our featured banquet speaker, Max Freedman, N4ML, who is looking forward to joining us in Huntsville. Max shared that he

From the President (continued)

would like to keep the details of his presentation a surprise, which only adds to the anticipation surrounding his program on his role as a team member in the recent Bouvet Island DXpedition. It promises to be an enjoyable and informative evening. Tickets are being sold, so do not wait to get yours.

Annual Dues

Annual dues are being received by our Treasurer, Jim, W1WSF. The easiest method to pay is via PayPal. Just connect via the club web site, scroll down to Membership dues and the rest

is self-explanatory. If you are not sure if you have paid this year, please do so soonest. In a few weeks, I will begin removing non-paid members off of my email mailing list.

Upcoming Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on June 9 at 6:30 p.m. CST. The evening will begin with a brief business meeting, followed by a program on the recent Desecheo Island DXpedition (KP5/NP3VI), presented by Otis, NP4G. We will meet at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, AL 35801. I look forward to seeing our members there and hearing about the DX contacts you have made over the past month.

About the NADXC

2026 NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Bruce Smith, AC4G
Vice President	Fred Kepner, K3FRK
Sec./Treasurer	Jim Brown, W1WSF
Directors	Chuck Lewis, N4NM
	Mick Bell, N8AU
	Bob DePierre, K8KI (Ex-officio)

How to Join

Come to a club meeting or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at the Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Participants can also join the meeting virtually via [Zoom](#).

This edition of The LongPath published by
Fred Kepner, K3FRK

It's time to pay 2026 membership dues.

Dues can be paid electronically at the [NADXC website](#). Contact Jim, W1WSF (treasurer@nadxc.org) for information about other payment options.

Upcoming NADXC Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

5:45 PM doors open / 6:30 PM
meeting start

Program: KP5/NP3VI Activation of
Desecheo Island by Otis Vicens,
NP4G

Location: Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 and via [Zoom](#)

Tuning an 80m Base Fed Tower

by Mark Brown, N4BCD

In the March LongPath issue I described the process of installing 64 mostly full-size radials around the base of my tower. Working a few hours each day around other springtime & family commitments, I had the all the radials in place about a month later. Now it was time to tune the tower system with the existing top loading and radials.

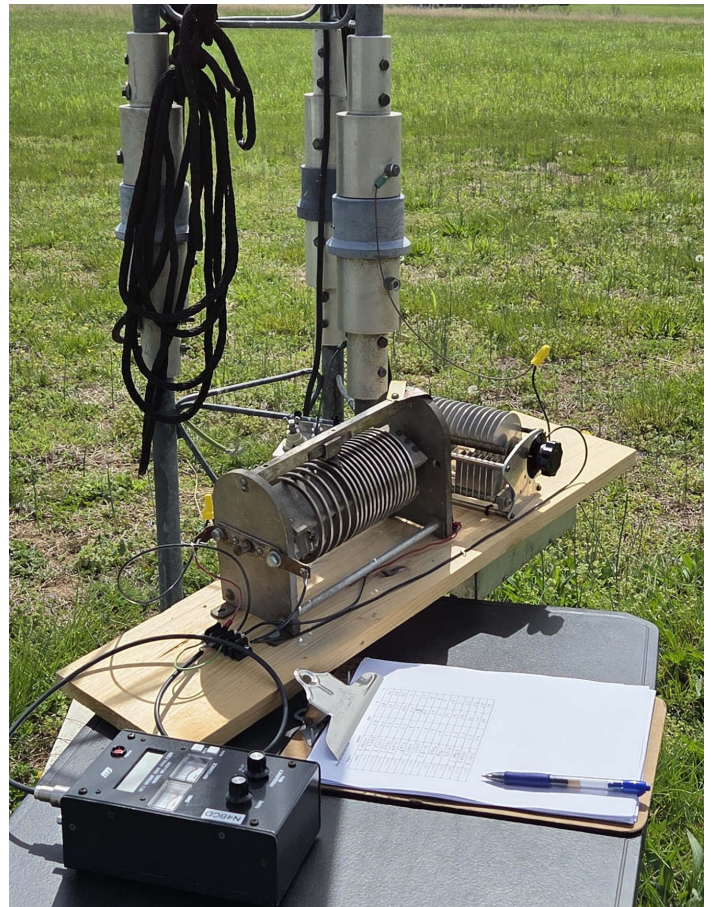


Tower base with 59 Radials installed, 5 to go

I used my MFJ-259B to sweep the HF spectrum and found wild swings of resistance, reactance, and SWR. So much so, that it was difficult to discern exactly where the system was resonant. The fact that the MFJ analyzer does not display

negative reactance made for some guesstimation.

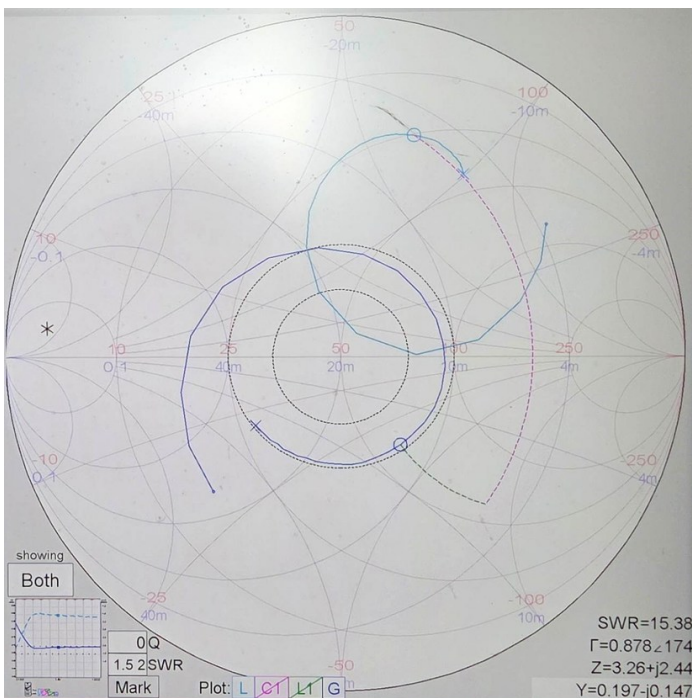
There are some excellent online tools for impedance matching using various LC circuits in either high or lowpass topology and those tools gave me starting values to work with. I used some junk box components and breadboarded a circuit for more measurements. I was able to find a perfect match using a physically large variable inductor and variable capacitor. Trouble was, that solution only had an SWR bandwidth of 200 KHz. My goal was a 3:1 SWR bandwidth across the entire band. That is a tall order for an 80m antenna as 3.5MHz to 4Mhz represents a 13% change in frequency.



N4BCD's LC breadboard circuit test setup

Tuning an 80m Base Fed Tower (continued)

Enter SimSmith – a simulation program that allows one to visualize the effect of component changes across the entire band. A range of measurements can be imported, and then by adding adjustable LC components, a visualization of the resulting SWR across the band as a graph or Smith chart can be seen.

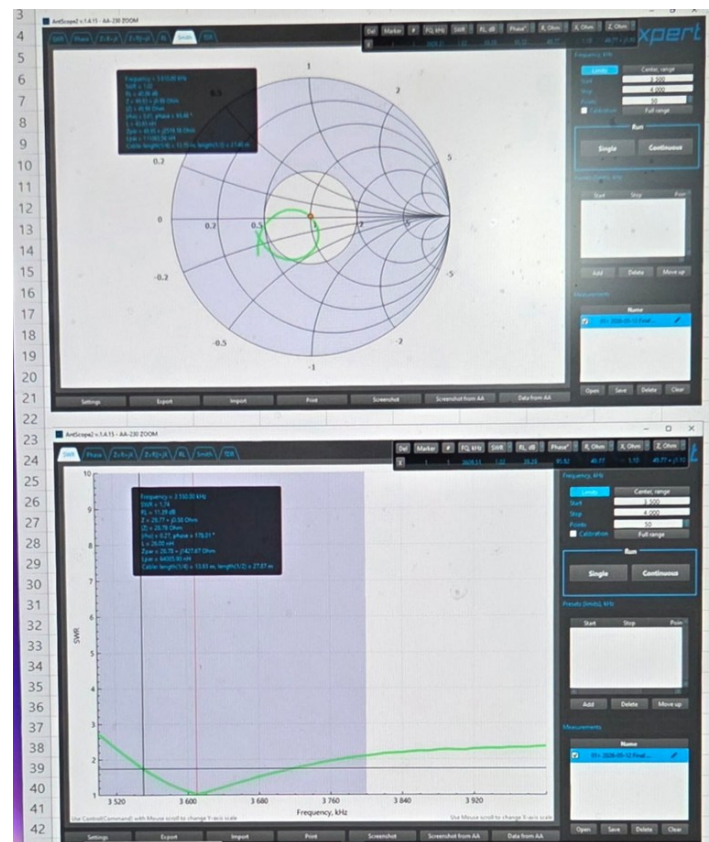


The initial SimSmith output

A truism in any simulation is the adage of ‘garbage in, garbage out’. The accuracy and precision of R & X values from the MFJ resulted in numerous false attempts at getting the desired outcome.

The enabler was a Rig Expert analyzer borrowed from Barry, WA4HR which provided sweep data with enough accuracy & granularity to input into the SimSmith program. The result of a few hours of playing with component values showed that a set of fixed value components could achieve a suitable match across the entire 80m

band.



An improved match was possible after better measurements were acquired

During development I used some silver mica capacitors and a hand wound inductor to verify I was on the right track. I had to return the Rig Ex-



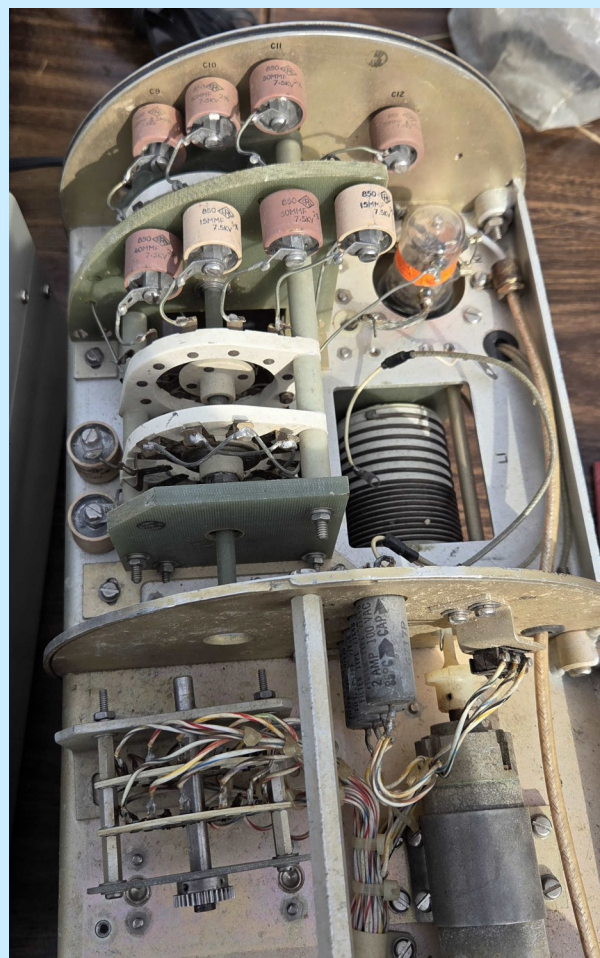
The doorknob caps appear in series but are actually wired parallel. A DXE Vertical Feedline Choke was available and used to provide a DC short to ground (not shown).

Tuning an 80m Base Fed Tower (continued)

pert before project completion but knew at that point what I needed: a series L wound with 14ga wire on a 3/4" piece of PVC for 2.1uH (or 2.4uH depending on what tool was used to measure it), and a shunt C of 920pF. I used doorknob caps with >10KV breakdown. Probably overkill, but I wanted it to be robust.

The table below are final measurements at the tower base and at the rig. I'm very happy with the result. I'll be even happier when the Alpha 91B is repaired and I'm loud on 80m.

Frequency (MHz)	SWR Tower Base MFJ-259B	SWR at Rig FTdx101D
3.50	2.9	2.2
3.55	2.9	1.6
3.60	1.9	1.0
3.65	1.6	1.4
3.70	1.5	1.5
3.75	1.6	1.8
3.80	1.8	1.8
3.85	1.9	1.9
3.90	2.0	1.9
3.95	2.2	1.9
4.00	2.2	1.9



New doorknob caps are ridiculously expensive (~\$100 ea.) but the Flea Market at Dayton Hamvention turned up a government surplus antenna tuning unit with 11 doorknobs from 10pF through 500pF for \$80. The included roller inductor and vacuum relay were a bonus.

2026 DX Banquet tickets are available for purchase.

All hams and guests are invited and welcome, NADXC membership is NOT required to purchase tickets or attend.

Presentation by Max Freedman, N4ML on the 3Y0K Bouvet Island DXpedition

Date and time: Evening of Saturday, August 22nd.

Location: Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801

Tickets can be purchased on the [NADXC website](https://www.nadxc.org/).

Signals from the Past



This month's feature is an excerpt from the May 1981 edition of the LongPath. Included is a member biography, the 1981 membership list, and a challenge question. If you enjoy reading past issues of the LongPath, you can access most issues from 2013 to present on the [NADXC website](http://NADXC.website).

HUMDINGERS de K4RSB.....

Marie Ann Steenburn, KX4U, who is known to the Amateur Fraternity as "Tinker." Tinker grew up in Huntsville and is a true Madison County native. For Several years, Tinker pursued a singing career. She had her own band and played many of the local and surrounding clubs. Tinker has entered and won many talent contest as well as auditioned for DOT records. Her professional name was Anna Marie.

Tinker was working as a Security Supervisor and Executive Secretary for Sanders Associates, who at that time had a contract with the Army on the FAAR project. It was during this time Tinker met a gentleman known as Col. Steenburn to many people.

It was not until many years after their marriage, that they both became interested in Amateur Radio. At that time, they were living on Guntersville Lake. Both obtained their license at the same time. Her first call was WB4VUA. Don's father was also a Ham.

Tinker is active in the HAYLARCS which is a local radio club for women amateurs. She is past secretary-treasurer of that organization.

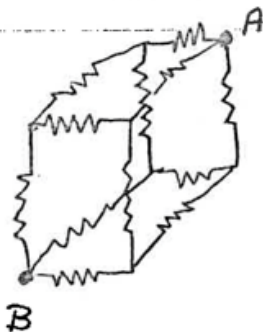
The Tinker station consist of a Drake TR-7, SB220, 68 foot tower, with a KT-34XA. Tinker has 260 countries confirmed and has worked over 100 countries on CW. Recently, she upgraded her license to Extra-Class. This is not a bad record for a YL who has had her license only four years.

Tinker has started playing golf recently. She enjoys the game so much that she plays as much as five times a week. She is a member of the Officers Wives Club and is presently playing in one of their golf tournaments.

Tinker and Don have one son, Barry who is seven. Barry will probably be Ham Number Three in the Steenburn household.

When the DX is on the air, you can bet that KX4U will be in the pile-ups, honking with the best because she is a true "Humdinger."

60 ohm resistors



HELP, HELP, HELP. O.K. all of you EE's and people who hold Extra's, let us see how smart you are for once. What is the total resistance between points A and B of the box if each resistor is 60 ohms. No fair using your super duper accurate ohm meter, now. KC4HO will give the first winner a free last years phone directory for the correct formula to know how to figure the "darn" thing.

Signals from the Past

NORTH ALABAMA DX CLUB MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

1 MAY 1981

K4AEB	TAVA FRANKLIN	205-883-0371	711 PINECREST RD	HSV,AL	35802
N4AJZ	JIM SLEDGE	205-757-1962	RT 4 BOX 212	KILLEN, AL	35645
AA4AR	BOB HILL	615-967-3908	RFD 1 BOX 19A	WIN-,TN	37398
N4AVB	JOSH KELLY	205-837-0569	215 KELLY DR	HSV,AL	35806
K4BBF	AL WATSON		1442 RAGLEY HALL RD	ATL,GA	30319
K4BWU	DON WHITENER	205-837-4454	6601 WILLOWRIDGE RD	HSV,AL	35806
AA4BP	MIKE CARROLL	205-883-6999	3602 WHITEDAK WAY	HSV,AL	35805
W4BRE	DAN WHITSETT	205-533-5777	2410 COVEMONT DR	HSV,AL	35801
WB4CSK	MARK CLARK	615-433-5114	1839 DUNROAMIN' LN	FAY-,TN	37334
N4CWL	SHARI CROSS	205-536-5617	4020 TELSTAR CIR	HSV,AL	35805
KD4CY	BARRY BICKNELL	205-881-8794	12221 GREENLEAF DR	HSV,AL	35803
W4DJJ	BILL LAWSON	615-425-6525	RT 1 BOX 409A	TAFT,TN	38488
WA4DPU	EDDIE BLALACK	615-433-5073	1110 BAGLEY DR	FAY-,TN	37334
WD4EFD	BILL PRESLEY	205-534-4012	1600 CHAPMAN AVE	HSV,AL	35811
KR4F	JOHNNY WINTER	205-534-6785	800 RANDOLPH AVE	HSV,AL	35801
KI4G	BOB HILL	615-433-6291	RT 4 BOX 49	FAY-,TN	37334
K4GJD	WARREN TROWBRIDGE	205-881-0764	501 HIAWATHA TR	HSV,AL	35803
K6GNZ	BILL PAIGE	205-883-4920	1019 SHARPSBURG DR	HSV,AL	35803
KC4HO	DAVE MOTLEY	205-355-7197	2204 CALRAY AVE SW	DECA,AL	35603
WB4HOK	DON TUNSTILL	205-536-3904	1215 DALE ST	HSV,AL	35801
KC4IB	CRANT McNUTT	205-637-8828	RFD 1 BOX 19	TRINITY,AL	35673
K4IKR	BILL CHRISTIAN	205-534-3049	2800 CAVE AVE	HSV,AL	35810
WD4IRY	DONNIE CHRISTIAN	205-859-2264	3422 AVONDALE RD	HSV,AL	35810
WA4ITB	MARK FOSTER	205-383-8984	1504 FORDSWAY MUS.	SHOALS,AL	35660
K4KFH	ED CLARK	205-852-5974	3711 PECAN GROVE DR	HSV,AL	35810
N4KG	TOM RUSSELL	205-233-1402	RT 1 BOX 705C	HARVEST,AL	35749
WN4KKN	TREY GARLOUGH	205-852-1966	2913 BROADVIEW DR	HSV,AL	35810
NE4L	TONY GIST	205-757-4519	RT 5 BOX 471	FLO-,AL	35630
WB4LIB	TOMMY HILL	205-764-3017	102 VANFLEET	FLO-,AL	35630
WA4LTG	GERALD NEWBERN	205-767-0441	4721 CIRCLE DR	FLO-,AL	35630
KI4M	TED POUNDERS	205-766-9861	RFD 10, BOX 76	FLO-,AL	35630
K4MG	LEE WRIGHT	205-881-2083	2912 BARCODY RD	HSV,AL	35801
K4MMG	STEVE LONG	205-881-4277	2008 AFTONBRAE	HSV,AL	35803
N4NO	JERRY CROSS	205-536-5617	4020 TELSTAR CIR	HSV,AL	35805
WA4NPL	DON RODEN	205-533-3676	1727 MONTE SAND BD	HSV,AL	35801
WA4NTM	JIM HARRIS	205-533-0051	4215 FORTSON LN	HSV,AL	35810
KD4O	ROGER COOK	205-353-0079	RT 5 BOX 292	DECATUR, AL	35603
WA4ODM	SONNY BATCHELOR	205-883-8289	9024 RANDALL RD	HSV,AL	35802
WB4PAB	BILL HENRY	205-881-6860	8407 LOUIS DR	HSV,AL	35802
N4QF	BILL PHARES	615-967-6433	BOX 61 RT 1	DECHERD, TN	37324
WB4QGI	JESS LEWIS	615-728-0558	507 WEST HIGH ST	MAN-,TN	37355
WB4QXM	NANCY MORRIS	205-859-3994	4008 GUNNISON LN	HSV,AL	35810
WB4RFZ	LLOYD BARNETT	205-353-3783	407 EVERETT DR	DECATUR,AL	35601
K4RSB	DON NEVILLE	205-536-1246	209 LONGWOOD DR	HSV,AL	35801
K4TO	DAVE SUBLETTE	205-536-6546	1207 MONTE SAND BD	HSV,AL	35801
KX4U	TINKER STEENBURN	205-881-6266	7201 MILESTONE DR	HSV,AL	35802
W4UP	JOE RIVAMONTE	205-533-5750	3209 CRESCENT CIR	HSV,AL	35801
W4USM	BOB BYNUM	205-852-2721	3208 SEARCY DR	HSV,AL	35810
N4UV	BILL CREEL	205-881-7563	401 OVERLOOK DR	HSV,AL	35803
KY4V	Jo McDONALD	205-533-6449	3308 LOOKOUT DR	HSV,AL	35801
WA4VLB	DON STEENBURN	205-881-6266	7201 MILESTONE DR	HSV,AL	35802
WA4WED	BOB NEEFUS	205-539-1838	3515 CAYMAN RD	HSV,AL	35805
AA4X	MARVIN TIDWELL	205-381-6558	RFD 2 BOX 14	TUS-,AL	35674
K4XH	JOHN MORRIS	205-859-3994	4008 GUNNISON LN	HSV,AL	35810
K4XQ	JIM GASAWAY	205-353-7199	P.O. BOX 1083	DECATUR, AL	35602
K4XR	CRAIG COMPTON	205-350-2226	2802 PEABODY CIR	DECATUR, AL	35603
AD4Y	CHUCK LEWIS	205-539-8950	4322 CHICKASAW DR	HSV,AL	35801
K4ZGB	TOM HARDISON	205-381-5018	201 SPRING RD	TUS-,AL	35674
W4ZWE	BOYD SHELTON	205-828-3040	2143 GRIMWOOD RD	TONEY,AL	35773

HSV- = HUNTSVILLE FAY- = FAYETTEVILLE FLO- = FLORENCE MAN- = MANCHESTER
TUS- = TUSCUMBIA WIN- = WINCHESTER

Upcoming DX Contests

by Chuck Lewis, N4NM

IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW, (CW), 160-10 meters



June 6, 1500Z to June 7, 1459Z

Exchange: RST, Serial #

See page 81, June QST and www.darc.de



GACW WWSA CW DX Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

June 13, 1500Z to June 14, 1500Z

Exchange: RST, CQ zone

See page 81, June QST

ARRL International Digital Contest, (DIG – NO RTTY), 160-10 Meters + 6 meters



June 6, 1800Z to June 7, 2359Z

Exchange: 4-char grid

See page 81, June QST and www.arrl.org/arrl/digital-contest

Pajajaran Bogor DX Contest, (SSB), 80 – 10 meters



June 20, 0000Z to June 20, 2359Z

Exchange: RS, Serial #

See page 81, June QST and www.pbdx-contest.id

YB ORARI DX Contest, (SSB), 80-10 meters



June 13, 0000Z to June 13, 2359

Exchange RS, "ORARI" or "DX"

See page 81, June QST and www.oroaricontest.id

All Asian DX Contest (CW), 160-10M



June 20, 0000Z to June 21, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus 2-digit age

See page 81, June QST and www.jarl.org

Asia-Pacific Sprint, (SSB), 20-15 meters



June 13, 1100Z to June 13, 1300Z

Exchange: RS, Serial #

See page 81, June QST and www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt



SMIRK Contest, (SSB/CW), 6 meters

June 20 0000Z to June 21, 2359Z

Exchange: 4-Char. grid square, member number (optional)

See page 81, June QST and www.smirk.info

Portugal Day Contest, (SSB/CW), 80-10 meters



June 13, 1200Z to June 14, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) and Serial # or CT district code

See page 81, June QST, and <http://portugaldaycontest.rep.pt>

Stew Perry Topband Challenge (CW), 160 meters



June 20, 1500Z to June 21, 1500Z

Exchange: 4-character grid square

See page 81, June QST and <http://www.kkn.net/stew/>

Upcoming DX Contests (continued)

IARU HF World Championships (SSB/CW), 160-10M



July 11, 1200Z to July 12 1200Z
Exchange: RS(T) plus ITU zone; IARU HQ
stns send HQ abbrev.
See <https://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship>

Marconi Memorial HF Contest, 1400Z, July 4 to
1400 July 5

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in
the journals; beware.

Contest information acquired from: [http://
www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html](http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html)

OTHERS:

His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB, 1200Z, Jun
27 to 1200Z, Jun 28

A large advertisement for GigaParts. It features a collage of various electronic and gaming items: a black gaming chair, a monitor displaying 'MSI ESPORTS', a radio, a camera on a tripod, a laptop, and various cables. The background is a blue and white geometric design. Text on the left lists categories: RADIOS, PCS, GAMING GEAR, MAKERS, GADGETS, and PERSONALIZED GEAR. In the center, it says 'WANT TO SHOP THE HOTTEST WEEKLY DEALS' and 'SUBSCRIBE AT: GIGAPARTS.COM/NEWSLETTER'. At the bottom, it says 'Shop these and more at GIGAPARTS.COM!' and provides the address '6123 University Drive, Huntsville, AL 35806'. The GigaParts logo is prominently displayed in the middle.

The logo for the W4DXCC DX & Contest Convention. It features a stylized globe with the text 'W4DXCC' in large blue letters across the middle. Below the globe, it says 'DX & Contest Convention' in red. The date 'SEPTEMBER 19th, 2026' is written in large black letters. Below that, the location 'LeConte Hotel and Convention Center' is listed, followed by '(formerly The Mainstay—where it all began...)', the address '410 Pine Mountain Road, Pigeon Forge, TN, 37863', and the phone number 'Hotel Reservation 865-428-8350'. A box contains the website 'www.W4DXCC.org'. At the bottom, it says '... to bring DXers and Contesters together in fellowship', 'Flea Market 8am-12pm behind the Hotel', and 'Convention Starts 8am till 4pm'.



DXpeditions in June 2026

Reprinted with permission of Bill Feidt, NG3K



Start	End	Entity	Callsign	QSL via	Notes
2026 Apr19	2026 Jun16	Kenya	5Z4	LoTW	By MM0ZBH as 5Z4/MM0ZBH; HF; CW SSB FT8; QSL via MM0ZBH direct w/ SAE only
2026 May05	2026 Jul20	French Polynesia	FO	LoTW	By F6BCW as FO/F6BCW fm Tikehau, Tuamotu; 80-6m; CW SSB; QSL via F6EXV or Club Log OQRS
2026 May20	2026 Jun19	Namibia	V5	LoTW	By N7XOB as V5/N7XOB; 7.165 and 14.265 MHz; SSB
2026 Jun01	2026 Jun14	Lord Howe I	VJ1L	LoTW	By 7 ops; 40-10m, perhaps 80m; CW FT8 SSB; QSL via M0OXO
2026 Jun02	2026 Jun09	Macao	XX9TXN	LoTW	By VR2XAN; 160-6m; SSB CW FT8; QSL via IV3SKB
2026 Jun03	2026 Jun12	Tanzania	5H1KB	LoTW	By DL2SBY fm Zanzibar I (IOTA AF-032); focus on 6m; CW SSB FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DL2SBY direct
2026 Jun04	2026 Jun13	Rwanda	9X5KM	LoTW	By F8FUA fm Kigali; HF; CW SSB + digital; 100w; hexbeam, dipoles, verticals; holiday style operation; QSL via F8FUA Buro
2026 Jun08	2026 Jul07	Tanzania	5H3DX	LoTW	By NK8O fm Dodoma; 40-6m; CW FT8 FT4; 100w; dipole, vertical, longwire
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun18	Palau	T88AR	LoTW	By JA6UBY fm Koror; 160-6m; FT8 FT4 SSB FM (on 10m); QSL via JA6UBY
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun24	St Martin	FS	LoTW	By K9EL as FS/K9EL; 80-6m, focus on 6m; CW FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS
2026 Jun11	2026 Jun22	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay; 160-6m, incl 60m; SSB FT8; yagi, verticals; QSL also OK via W5JON direct
2026 Jun12	2026 Jun22	Cape Verde Is	D4OL	LoTW	By TF1OL fm Boa Vista I; HF; FT8 FT4
2026 Jun12	2026 Jun29	Curacao	PJ2	LoTW	By PH2M as PJ2/PH2M; 80-6m, including 60m; mainly FT8 FT4, some SSB
2026 Jun17	2026 Jun24	Cape Verde Is	D44EC	LoTW	By EC1A fm Praia, Santiago I; 40-6m; QSL via EC1A
2026 Jun19	2026 Jun22	Palau	T88TB	LoTW	By JA0JHQ fm Koror IOTA OC-099, P77fi); HF; QRV for All Asian DX CW Contest; QSL via JA0JHQ direct
2026 Jun20	2026 Jun22	Armenia	EK	DL2JRM (B/d)	By DL2JRM as EK/DL2JRM; CW SSB
2026 Jun27	2026 Jul14	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	By KV1J as FP/KV1J; 80-6m; SSB CW FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS or KV1J direct; QRV for IARU contest and CQ VHF Contest
2026 Jul04	2026 Jul23	Crete	SV9	LoTW	By HB9EMP as SV9/HB9EMP; HF

Club Business and Announcements

May Meeting Minutes and Financial Report

by Jim Brown, W1WSF

Minutes

Bruce Smith, AC4G opened the May 12 meeting at 6:30 pm at the Signals Museum. Twenty members attended in person, with two others joining via Zoom. No new member applications were pending.

Next, Bruce announced that Charles Hibbs, KR4LXJ earned his license. Charles received a round of applause from the members.

After congratulating Charles, Bruce reviewed the DX worked list and reminded members that if they have not yet paid their dues, they should do so either online or in person to Jim Brown, W1WSF. The membership dues help fund the banquet and DXpeditions.

Bruce noted the upcoming DXpedition to Lord Howe Island, VJ2L, which will be on air from June 1 to June 14, 2026.

Bruce reminded members that the club welcomes LongPath articles and presenters for upcoming monthly meetings.

The Huntsville Hamfest will be held August 22-23. The NADXC banquet webpage is now active. Tickets are \$45 each. Each dinner ticket includes one raffle ticket. Attendees may purchase up to 2 additional raffle tickets at \$5 each when purchasing their banquet ticket. Max Freedman, N4ML will be the banquet speaker, discussing the Bouvet DXpedition in which he participated.

Following these updates, members unanimously approved both last month's meeting minutes and the financial report.

Addressing financial matters, Jim Brown

noted that the deposit for the banquet food vendor has been made and that the insurance has been paid. The budget includes the funds for the server tips. Don Bertram, N4SEI was given the insurance certificate for the Signals Museum.

Turning to banquet prizes, Bruce revealed that the grand prize is a Yaesu FTX-1 Field.

Chuck Lewis, N4NM, will get the plaque to be presented to the Young Ham of the Year at the Huntsville Hamfest.

Mark Brown, N4BCD, reported that Don Bertram, N4SEI is the new HARC president. Mark also noted that the ARRL will offer three training tracks on the Friday of Hamfest weekend: Mini Contest University, Emergency Communications, and Salty Walts Portable Antenna Workshop. The ARRL Donor Reception will be held at the US Space and Rocket Center on Friday night, August 21. The Hamfest volunteer page is currently active.

Addressing new business, Bruce noted that Fred Kepner, K3FRK, had updated the club's info on the ARRL website. Bruce also reported that the Board of Directors will meet soon to make final decisions on DXpeditions to be funded in the near future.

Fred, K3FRK, noted that Rob Suggs, NN4NT had a letter titled "An EV-Powered Station" published under "Hints & Hacks" in the March 2026 issue of QST. Rob's letter caught a lot of attention because it detailed how to leverage the massive battery pack of an Electric Vehicle (EV) as a clean, high-capacity power source for ham operators. Steve Werner, AG4W also had a letter pub-

May Meeting Minutes and Financial Report (continued)

lished in the March 2026 QST. Steve's letter appeared in the "Celebrating Our Legacy" column and reminisced about the radios and antennas he operated as a young ham in the mid and late 1960's.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm, followed by Rob Suggs (NN4NT) giving a very informative presentation on solar weather and propagation.

Financial Report

The Avadian bank account has been closed. All funds are now at Regions. I meant to open a CD, but a miscommunication caused me

to miss my opportunity. I will bring a letter for the President to sign to the next meeting to simplify the process, and I will open the CD for \$10,000 this month.

We received \$42 in membership dues, bringing our total paid membership to 38. We have sold 24 banquet tickets (\$1080) and 33 extra raffle tickets (\$165).

Insurance for the banquet was paid in May, and I will pay the Signal Museum for the use of the banquet space in June.

Twelve prize commitments have been received so far. Now that the Hamvention is over, reminder emails will be sent to the vendors that have not yet responded.

After the next Board of Directors meeting, I expect to send out funds to support DXpeditions.

2026 NADXC May Budget Report

Category	Budget	May	YTD
Income			
Banquet Raffle	\$ 300	\$ 165	\$ 165
Banquet Ticket Sales	\$ 4,950	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,080
Club Dues	\$ 920	\$ 42	\$ 804
Donations - Equipment Sales	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40
Huntsville Hamfest Donation	\$ 450	\$ -	\$ -
From Avadian CD	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165
Total Income	\$ 6,620	\$ 1,287	\$ 2,255
Expenses			
Awards			
ARRL Bricks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Plaques	\$ 315	\$ -	\$ 33
Awards Subtotal	\$ 315	\$ -	\$ 33

Banquet

Drinks	\$	200	\$	-	\$	-
Food	\$	2,980	\$	-	\$	200
Grand Prize	\$	550	\$	-	\$	654
Insurance	\$	120	\$	136	\$	136
Speaker room Travel	\$	450	\$	-	\$	-
PayPal Fee	\$	304	\$	50	\$	50
Venue	\$	600	\$	-	\$	-
Banquet Subtotal	\$	5,204	\$	186	\$	1,040

Dxpeditions

\$	2,000	\$	-	\$	246
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Operating Expenses

Harc Zoom	\$	50	\$	-	\$	-
Miscellaneous	\$	-	\$	-	\$	93
Museum Meetings	\$	700	\$	-	\$	700
Web Hosting	\$	77	\$	-	\$	-
Operating Expenses Total	\$	827	\$	-	\$	793

Picnic

\$	200	\$	-	\$	-
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Total Expenses

\$	8,546	\$	186	\$	2,112
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Difference

(\$1,926)

\$142.74

NADXCC Balances

	Jan-26	Expected 12-26	May-26	YTD Diff
Avadian Checking	\$ 7,352.26	\$ 5,426.26	\$ -	
Avadian Savings	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ -	
Avadian CD	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,400.00	\$ -	
Paypal	\$ 66.41	\$ -	\$ 561.98	
Regions Checking	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,004.43	
Total	\$ 17,423.67	\$ 15,831.26	\$ 17,566.41	\$142.74

North Alabama DX Club (NADXC)

“Club Fact Sheet”

Who We Are: NADXC is a group of active radio amateurs with a deep compassion for working DX, contesting, and other aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club. NADXC members are active in all facets of DX and contesting. The NADXC also donates funding for various DXpeditions all over the world. The NADXC sponsors a DX Banquet in mid-August of every year in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. NADXC members moderate various programs at club meetings and during the Huntsville Hamfest, covering amateur radio technical and operating topics for all to learn and enjoy. The NADXC sponsors a prestigious award at the end of year for the most deserving DXer of the Year from the NADXC club.

DX Funding Policy: The policy supports major DXpeditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the NADXC website and in the “LongPath” newsletter.

Club History: The NADXC was organized in December 1966 by a group of 12 charter members. The original constitution was adopted and signed on December 19, 1966. The first chairman was Dan Whitsett, W4BRE (SK). In the early-1970's, the NADXC was custodian of the W4, K4 QSL Bureau which became such a huge undertaking that it eventually was passed to other larger clubs. In January of 1977, the club bought a VHF repeater for sharing DX spots and hosting a weekly net on Wednesday nights. The repeater was located on Redstone Arsenal, Weeden Mountain using the frequencies of 147.91/147.31 MHz on two meters. Today, the repeater has been relocated and utilizes the frequencies of 147.90/147.30 MHz, with a callsign of W4QB. The weekly net has been discontinued. In 1980, the club started the monthly newsletter known as the “LongPath” which currently continues to be produced every month.

While organized as a DX club, NADXC members are active in all aspects of the hobby. We trust that this information will be of interest to all and hope all hams have a long and pleasant association with the NADXC.

Requirements for Membership: The NADXC welcomes all hams radio operators who have an interest in DXing. It does not matter whether you are a new ham, a seasoned ham operator, an old-timer to DXing, or a ham who has just been hit with the DX bug; everyone is welcome! See the club website: www.nadxc.org. Dues are paid in January of every year.

Meetings: The NADXC club meets the second Tuesday night of every month, with the current location at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE) located at 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama and virtually via Zoom. Some members gather early to eat their dinner, socialize, discuss DX worked, and then we have a short business meeting starting at 6:30 P.M. CT. followed by an exciting, interesting program to help, entertain, and teach members about DX and amateur radio in general.

Club Officers: There are four elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and three elected directors on the NADXC Board of Directors. The current roster of club officers and directors can be seen on the NADXC web site or in the “LongPath” newsletter, which is uploaded each month to the club website.

Website: The NADXC club maintains a website at www.nadxc.org. This site provides club information and activities throughout the year about a variety of subjects related to the club, DX, and amateur radio.